Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Saturday 20 Feb 2021 until 23:59 on Sunday 21 Feb 2021

Forecast Issued on Friday 19 Feb 2021 at 16:01 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High confidence for a period of wet and windy weather with more settled days on Sunday and Monday before further heavy rain and strong winds. Generally strong winds throughout the forecast. Lower confidence in rainfall amounts and timings of clearance of the rain.

Headline for Saturday 20 Feb 2021: A dry start to the day with a few cloud breaks, rain spreading north across the hills later.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 20 Feb 2021

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy Snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
Low Likelihood

Gales
High Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Low Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
Medium Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Partly cloudy (night)	Partly cloudy (night)	Clear night	Sunny	Cloudy	Light rain	Heavy Rain	Sleet
Precipitation probability							
10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	30%	80%	50%

Forecast for Saturday 20 Feb 2021

Weather: Mainly dry in the early hours with a few cloud breaks especially for the more northerly ranges. Dry weather continuing for much of the morning with one or two sunny spells possible. Cloud thickening from late morning and rain spreading north during the afternoon, the far north remaining dry until late afternoon. More exposed southerly ranges seeing the heaviest and most persistent rain from mid afternoon. Rain continuing in the evening and becoming sleety on the highest tops in the evening.

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 80% during the morning before the rain but cloud lowering as rain approaches and perhaps 30% during the afternoon with most southern ranges shrouded in cloud. Most chance of cloud free summits in the Assynt area and around Ben Hope and Klibreck.

Visibility: Good visibility during the morning with cloud bases well above the summits but cloud gradually lowering and by mid afternoon the southerly ranges will have overcast cloud bases from 500m and above, cloud bases will be higher the further north you travel. Visibility will generally be poor during the persistent afternoon rain and very poor at times in heavier rain.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
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Forecast for Saturday 20 Feb 2021

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	40/48 SW	34/41 SW	33/39 S	36/41 SE	27/34 E	44/54 SE	51/64 S	48/62 SW	45/57 S
900	38/46 SW	32/39 SW	31/37 S	32/38 SE	25/31 E	40/50 SE	47/60 S	46/59 SW	42/54 S
600	25/34 S	21/28 SW	20/27 S	20/27 SE	18/24 E	28/37 SE	32/45 S	33/47 SW	29/42 S
300	6/33 SW	4/26 SW	2/20 S	2/19 SE	3/23 E	6/35 SE	10/44 S	13/46 SW	11/41 S
Glen	12/29 S	8/22 S	5/16 S	9/20 E	13/25 E	18/37 SE	19/41 S	20/41 SW	17/37 S

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	1/-7	1/-7	1/-7	2/-6	1/-6	2/-6	3/-5	1/-8	-1/-10
900	2/-6	2/-6	2/-6	2/-5	2/-5	3/-4	4/-4	2/-7	0/-9
600	4/-1	4/-2	4/-2	5/-0	4/-1	6/0	6/0	4/-3	3/-4
300	6/5	6/4	5/4	5/4	6/5	7/6	8/6	6/3	5/2
Glen	8/5	8/6	7/6	8/5	9/6	10/7	11/7	9/5	7/3
Freezing Level*	1200m	1100m	1100m	1300m	1400m	1800m	1800m	1200m	900m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Freezing level mainly above the summits so a continued slow melt of snow will enhance already full watercourses and very soggy ground conditions. Some low level flooding is possible. Severe gales on the tops during the afternoon, a few storm force gusts likely in the early evening.

Forecast for Sunday 21 Feb 2021

Weather: Outbreaks of rain and snow will die out and there will be some clear spells overnight. Turning into a dry and bright day with some sunny intervals. A few wintry showers are possible especially in the west.

Maximum wind: South or southwesterly 40-45mph with gusts 50-55mph

Chance of cloud free mountain/hill tops above 800m: 90% generally cloud above the summits but there may be some patches below 800m at times especially around any passing showers.

Visibility: Generally good or very good visibility throughout the day, perhaps dipping moderate in showers.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 3 rising to plus 7 Celsius.
At 800m: Plus 2 Celsius
Freezing level: Around 1000m

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